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433CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Infantry at Puklice Camp

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1. The village of Puklice is eight km southeast of Jihlava. Two km southwest of Puklice in a woods is a military camp and exercise area, consisting of 20 barracks buildings, each 15 by 60 m. Each building can take 100 men in double-deck beds.
2. The barracks is occupied by an infantry training battalion with the number VP-4951/B. It is subordinate to the infantry regiment in Jihlava. The battalion consists of a battalion staff, 25 to 28 men, with two passenger cars and three trucks; a training staff, 32 to 35 men; three rifle companies, 100 to 110 men, with 75 Soviet rifles, 32 Soviet machine-pistols, four Soviet light machine guns, one Soviet heavy machine gun, and one rocket projector each; a weapons company commanded by Lt Lothar, 125 to 130 men, with four light machine guns, two heavy AA machine guns, two light 50 mm mortars, two heavy 120 mm mortars, two AT rocket projectors, two 76.2 mm AT guns, 40 machine-pistols, and 85 Soviet rifles.
3. In Oct 1952 the battalion received 140 recruits. The regiment as a whole received 400 for training; all came from the 1930 and 1931 classes. Most of them were from Bohemia, but about 20 percent each from Slovakia and the border lands. Morale was poor from the beginning, but the soldiers did not talk much. Recruit training lasted until Feb 1953, with special attention given to political training. The specialists were separated later. Gas masks were issued and there was thorough antigas training.

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